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PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION
ON THE
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

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General Counsel

September 12, 1964

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Mr. Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Helms:

The Commission would appreciate receiving memoranda from the Central Intelligence Agency which can be published and cited as authority for the following propositions:

(1) "It is not unusual for a Latin American to exaggerate the lightness of a North American's skin or hair color." (This is in reference to Sylvia Duran's identification of Oswald as "blond".)

(2) The Hotel Berlin and the Hotel Metropole were both under the same administration and both are closely watched by the KGB.

(3) The "Passport and Visa Office" which Rimma Shirakova told Lee Harvey Oswald had been notified of his desire to become a citizen of the Soviet Union, is probably the Visa and Registration Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

(4) There have been allegations that Sylvia Duran and her husband, Haracio Duran Navarro, are members of the Communist Party.

(5) The usual Soviet procedure is to send defectors who have carried out their defection in Moscow to some place in the Soviet Union other than Moscow reasonably soon after it has been determined to accept the defector. (In establishing how long Lee Harvey Oswald probably waited to be accepted by the Soviet Union for residence there, the Commission would like to have authority for relying upon the fact that so long as Oswald was in Moscow staying in a room at the Metropole Hotel, he probably had not yet been accepted for residence in the Soviet Union.)

Sincerely yours,

THE C.I.A. HAS NO OBJECTION
TO THE DECLASSIFICATION OF
THIS DOCUMENT

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel

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The National Archives has no objection to the release of this document.

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